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Message Text

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46
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 FEA-01

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 /123 W
---------- 080074
R 221306Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4762
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USINT BAGHDAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 0898

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, KU
SUBJECT: KUWAIT OIL COMPANY PRODUCTION UP SLIGHTLY

REF: KUWAIT 244
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1. AUTHORITATIVE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY SOURCE MENTIONED

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RECENTLY TO EMBOFF THAT COMPANY'S PRODUCTION SO FAR THIS YEAR IS SLIGHTLY ABOVE 1975 AVERAGE. AS REPORTED REFTEL AVERAGE KOC PRODUCTION LAST YEAR WAS 1.84 MILLION BPD. APPARENTLY SINCE FIRST OF YEAR KOC PRODUCTION HAS BEEN ABOUT 2 MILLION BPD. TOTAL KUWAITI PRODUCTION, THEREFORE, MAY BE IN 2.2 MILLION BPD RANGE.

2. COMMENT: WE NOTE THAT FINANCIAL TIMES OF FEBRUARY 20 REPORTS OIL MINISTER KAZEMI AS SAYING HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE KUWAITI CRUDE PRODUCTION INCREASE NEXT YEAR ALTHOUGH HE ADDED CURRENT 2 MILLION BPD AVERAGE WILL BE MAINTAINED FOR REMAINDER OF 1976. IT INTERESTING THAT SOME KNOWLEDVEABLE OBSERVERS DO THINK THAT AN INCREASE IN OIL PRODUCTION IS AN EVENTUAL POSSIBILITY IN LIGHT IN-CREASING DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS OF GOK. IF, AS PRESENTLY SEEMS TO BE THE CASE, MARKET WILL NOT ALLOW NEW PRICE INCREASES, WE ALSO THINK THAT IN YEAR OR SO PRESSURE WILL BUILD FOR GOK TO AUTHORIZE SOME INCREASE IN PRODUCTTN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KUWAIT00898
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760067-0274
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760225/aaaaawap.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KUWAIT 244
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAIT OIL COMPANY PRODUCTION UP SLIGHTLY
TAGS: ENRG, KU, KUWAIT OIL COMPANY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006